

THE EAGLE TIMES



Wilder Hall, 1725 State Street, La Crosse, WI 54601
<http://www.uwlax.edu/rotc> goldbar@uwlax.edu (608) 785-8404

Nursing Students Tour a Modern “MASH” Hospital

By Stewart Fearon

Holly Cuhel, a Viterbo Nurse, joined nursing students from the University of Illinois – Chicago, Wheaton University, the University of Wisconsin – Madison, University of Wisconsin – Oshkosh, Northern Illinois University, University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point, Northern Michigan, Marquette, and Michigan Tech on a tour of the Army’s state of the art 32–bed Combat Support Hospital (CSH) at Fort McCoy. The CSH replaced the MASH (Mobile Army Support Hospital) from the Korean War, as seen on the popular sitcom “MASH” with Alan Alda.

The CSH can be set up in as little as 3 days depending on the size of hospital, number of trained, motivated, and rested Soldiers, speed that equipment arrives from staging area, weather, and whether or not patients arrive before the hospital is completely established. In 1990 the 296–bed CSH cost about \$15 million. Today’s standard CSH comes in two sizes, 84–bed and 164–bed.

Mr. John Christy, the ITS Medical Systems Contractor, took the nurses from the emergency room, to pre–op, the equipment sterilization and packaging section, Operating Room, Recovery Room, Pharmacy, and Laboratory. This mobile hospital even has its own X–ray room and central air–conditioning.

The CSH at Fort McCoy is actually used to train the medical units prior to their deploying into a Theater of Operations such as Iraq or Afghanistan. The Fort McCoy Regional Training

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Holly Cuhel is second from the left and the casualty is a plastic training aid.

Viterbo Student Learns to Fly

By Russell Hicks

In a brief ceremony Shayla McInnis, a Viterbo University Junior, was presented with a certificate of achievement for successfully completing the U.S. Army Airborne Course at Fort Benning, Georgia. Lieutenant Colonel Fearon, the Professor of Military Science, told the assembled cadets that this summer McInnis took off in a perfectly good airplane five times but never landed because she got off one thousand feet in the air!

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Airborne school is not for the faint hearted. It is three weeks long and is broken down into three separate phases. Phase one is ground week which is a rigorous conditioning and training program. McInnis stated, "students must be physically fit before starting Airborne School or they will never make it." The physically weak are more likely to either not complete the course because of an injury or fail the course due to an inability to qualify on the training apparatuses. Each day began with physically demanding physical training (PT) followed by seven hours of vigorous training. Students receive an intensive program of instruction to build individual skills preparing them to make a parachute jump and land safely. "I learned a lot that first week and the 'Blackhats' (trainers) kept pointing out the 250 foot tower that we would be dropped from in phase two so I had to get my landings right," said McInnis. The equipment the students trained on included a mock aircraft door to practice exiting the airplane, the 34 foot tower, and the lateral drift apparatus (LDA). Everyone must qualify on the 34 foot tower, the LDA, and pass all PT requirements before going on to tower training week.

Phase two is Tower Week. The individual skills learned during week one are refined during tower week and the "mass exit" concept is added to the training. The apparatus used during phase two include the swing lander trainer (SLT), suspended harness (SH), 250 foot free tower, and



Shayla McInnis

the wind machine. McInnis remembers the 250 foot tower vividly. "You were hooked up to the parachute and pulled to the top of the tower like a ride at Disney Land. The Blackhats looked like insects they were so far below. Then there was a metallic clink and I was falling toward the ground. I was so busy remembering to keep my knees and feet together, focus on the horizon, and going over how to do a Parachute Landing Fall (PLF) in my head I didn't have time to be afraid." Week two completed the individual skill training and built team effort skills.

Phase three is Jump Week. This is it! The previous weeks of training prepared McInnis for this week. She now had to successfully complete five qualifying jumps in order to graduate. Before she made her first jump she received a review of possible parachute malfunctions and what to do. McInnis remembers that the plane was hot and crowded with all the equipment everyone was wearing before takeoff. "When the plane took off my stomach stayed on the ground and I remember thinking I can't believe I'm really going to do this," she said.

Eagle Battalion Cadets Earn Top Honors

By Russell S. Hicks

In a brief ceremony Erik Schoenbeck, a Winona State University Senior, Stephen Kramer and Joseph Moen, University of Wisconsin – La Crosse Seniors were presented with the RECONDO certificate of achievement. Lieutenant Colonel Fearon, the Professor of Military Science, told the assembled cadets that this summer Schoenbeck, Kramer and Moen were in the top 20 percent of the over 3,000 cadets from across the country that attended the Leadership Development Assessment Course (LDAC) at Fort Lewis, Washington and they should all strive to earn the coveted RECONDO Badge when they attended LDAC!

The LDAC is a five-week long capstone to the Basic Officer Leadership Course (BOLC) 1 training. It is designed to evaluate a cadet's leadership abilities while providing additional leadership and individual

Field Training Exercise

By Russell Hicks

Every semester the Military Science Department conducts a Field Training Exercise (FTX) at Fort McCoy, WI. The FTX is put together by the senior class with assistance from the Military Science cadre. Our FTX consisted of many activities that prepare cadets for the Leadership Development Assessment Course (LDAC) at Fort Lewis, WA, which cadets attend after their junior year of college. LDAC is where junior cadets are put to the test on what they learned from their school and are ranked against their peers nationally. The Fall FTX typically consists of Obstacle courses or confidence courses, Basic Rifle Marksmanship, and Land Navigation.

On Friday September 23rd, approximately 40 cadets traveled by bus with all of their



Slide for Life

skills instruction.

Each cadet is given several opportunities to serve in leadership positions such as squad leader, platoon sergeant, platoon leader, first sergeant, executive officer, or company commander. These positions allow the cadet to demonstrate his/her leadership ability and skills. The cadet's performance in this area, along with scores from the Army Physical Fitness Test, land navigation test, Basic Rifle Marksmanship (BRM), and tactics, make Please see *RECONDO* on page 4



equipment. After arriving, the freshman, sophomores, and juniors participated in a confidence course and an obstacle course. These activities gave the cadets an opportunity to increase Please see *FTX* on page 5

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Site instructors encourage medical units to set up each ward exactly the same so no matter which ward the nurse or medic is in they know where certain supplies or equipment are located. However, most hospitals are designed by the medical staff to fit the requirements of the mission and then established by the hospital staff prior to providing the medical care required. Additionally the hospital staff is responsible for setting up the power generation, power distribution, and the water distribution for the hospital.

In addition to touring the CSH, Cuhel was able to see how the Army's Human Patient Simulator (HPS) worked. Mrs. Susan Sentinella RN explained that the Army was willing to kill the HPS over and over before the medical technicians, nurses, and doctors worked on a live Soldier. She explained that hands-on experience with the HPS is hard to beat.

The Human Patient Simulator (HPS) is actually a life sized model and can take the form of an adult, child or even a dog, to assist in training Army Veterinarians. It delivers experience in true-to-life scenarios that swiftly change to test the student's medical skills and knowledge without endangering live patients. The HPS at Fort McCoy blinks, speaks and breathes, has a heartbeat and a pulse, and accurately mirrors human responses to such procedures as CPR, intravenous medication, intubation, ventilation, and catheterization.

The HPS at Fort McCoy cost approximately \$400,000. The only major difference between a military version and the civilian counterpart is that the military one is portable. The nursing students left Fort McCoy with a better understanding of how advance the CSH is and the degree of training Army Medical personnel experience before working on live Soldiers.

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up the cadet's final grade for camp. LDAC also features special training consisting of individual movement techniques, offensive and defensive operations, water survival, and more. One of the most exciting training events is RECONDO competition.

To receive the RECONDO badge, cadets must: Successfully complete all Confidence, swim training, and Combat Water Survival Test; achieve a score of 270 or above on the Army Physical Fitness Test; achieve a score of 80% percent or higher on the land navigation tests; hit 23 out of 40 targets at Basic Rifle marksmanship; successfully complete the Machine Gun Assault Course, Hand Grenade, and Individual Tactical Training courses; and receive a satisfactory or above ratings on all 16 Leadership Dimensions and Army Values. Schoenbeck, Kramer and Moen exceeded the RECONDO badge requirements and brought pride to the Eagle ROTC Battalion by showing the cadets from the rest of the country what Eagle Battalion Cadets are made of.

STIPEND INCREASE

Press Release from Cadet Command Pay Operations

STIPEND INCREASE – Effective 1 October 05, Department of the Army has authorized an increase of stipend for all contracted cadets. The new monthly rates are:

	<u>OLD</u>	<u>NEW</u>
MS I	\$250.00	\$300.00
MS II	\$300.00	\$350.00
MS III	\$350.00	\$450.00
MS IV/V	\$400.00	\$500.00

These rates will be retroactive to 1 October 05 and will be shown in cadet's Leave and Earnings Statements once the budget is passed.

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unit cohesion by going through difficult obstacles with only the help of each other.

The next morning the cadets spent the day at the rifle range, some zeroing weapons and qualifying (23 hits out of 40) at pop-up targets, and some only familiarizing themselves with the weapons. The cadets were given many classes on M-16 rifles because it is extremely important that every Soldier understand how to safely use them.

On Sunday September 25th, the last day, the cadets worked in groups encouraging teamwork in order to accomplish the tasks. This encouraged them to work together to accomplish tasks. They used all of their creative thinking and came up with workable solutions. They were also given classes on land navigation, which they will need to apply after their junior year at LDAC. With this training



Cadet Kassulke coaches a new Cadet on the correct way to fire an M16-A1 Semi-Automatic Rifle

they will be very successful at Fort Lewis, WA when it is their turn to go to the Leadership Development and Assessment Course.

Leadership Training Course

By Evan Schlachter

The Leadership Training Course (LTC) is a paid, no obligation, four-week course held at Fort Knox, KY. The training is broken down into four phases each with special emphasis or different aspects of the army values and lifestyle.

Upon arrival at LTC the cadets will begin almost daily Physical Training and Drill and Ceremony in order to prepare them for training over the next four weeks. At LTC, cadets participate in various types of training which include Combat Water Survival Training, rappelling, land navigation, marksmanship training, urban combat situations, and squad tactics. These skills are put to the test in the later portion of LTC which culminates with a seven day field exercise, where everything you learned will be tested and evaluated.

The training is first rate throughout the entire four-week course. Upon completion, the student can receive up to seven credit hours and have the opportunity to enter the ROTC Advanced

Course to pursue a commission as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Army or choose a different life path while still being able to take away valuable leadership skills and training that will be priceless in any profession.

Active Duty Options

By LTC Stewart Fearon

On 27 May 2005, the Secretary of the Army approved a menu of options to increase active duty retention of future officers. For the Cadets going through the Fiscal Year 2006 accessions process, the Department of the Army is offering the following Options in exchange for agreement of an additional three years active duty service: Branch, Post (First Duty Assignment), and Graduate School Options.

The Army surveyed cadets and officers to determine what would increase their satisfaction while serving on active duty. Some of the feedback the Army received included the desire to serve in

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Eagle ROTC Battalion
Wilder Hall
1725 State Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

Phone:
(609) 785-8404

E-Mail:
goldbar@uwlax.edu

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the branch of choice, receive the assignment location (Post) of choice, or go to graduate school. These options are the results of those surveys.

Graduate School is only open to Distinguished Military Graduates and Cadets on 3 and 4 year scholarships.

Cadets may request to participate in more than 1 option, but they can only be selected in 1 of the options. Since the top 10% of the Active Duty Order of Merit List will receive their first branch of choice automatically, they may still participate in the Post and Graduate School Options.

A sample list of Graduate Schools and Majors is available at the Advanced Civil Schooling web site. <https://www.hrc.army.mil/site/Active/opfamacs/ACS00.htm>. Attendance will not be before year 6 but will be completed by year 14.

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Wilder Hall
1725 State Street
La Crosse, WI 54601



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